



A Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

San Luis Obispo County
Department of Social Services

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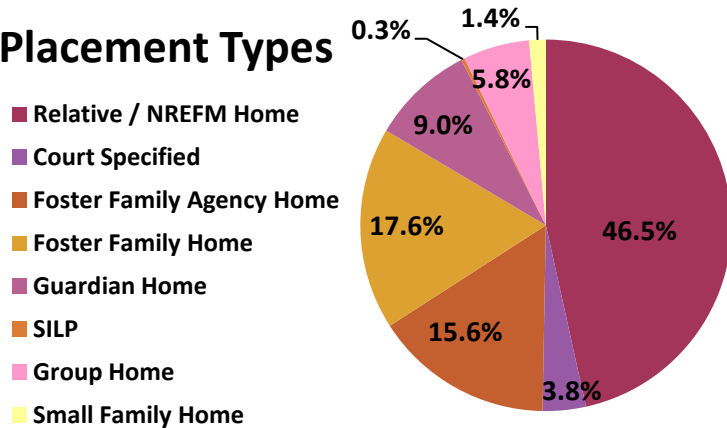
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CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: City/Region and Placement Type

Placement Types



Over 46% of all children in foster care under DSS supervision are placed with relatives or with non-relative extended family members (NREFM). This is considered the most beneficial type of care for children who cannot be left in their own homes.

San Luis Obispo consistently ranks among the highest of all counties in California in this measure.

The Supervised Independent Living Program (SILP) is part of After 18, a program providing services to non-minor dependents ages 18-21 voluntarily choosing to remain in Foster Care.

	Relative/ NREFM Home	Court Specified	Foster Family Agency Home	Foster Family Home	Guardian Home	SILP	Group Home	Small Family Home	Sum:
Arroyo Grande	12	1	7	3	4				27
Atascadero	14	1	10	19	7				51
Avila Beach			1						1
California Valley					3				3
Cambria	1								1
Cayucos				1					1
Creston	1								1
Grover Beach	12	2	2		2			1	19
Los Osos	9	1			3				13
Morro Bay	4	1	4	2					11
Nipomo	11	1	2		2			1	17
Oceano	6								6
Paso Robles	32	3	5	12	9			3	64
Pismo Beach				2	1				3
San Luis Obispo	13		5	6			6		30
San Miguel	1		4						5
Shandon	1								1
Templeton	2			10					12
Santa Margarita	1			3					4
Out of County	35	1	14	3		1	13		67
Out of State	6	2					1		9
Sum:	161	13	54	61	31	1	20	5	346

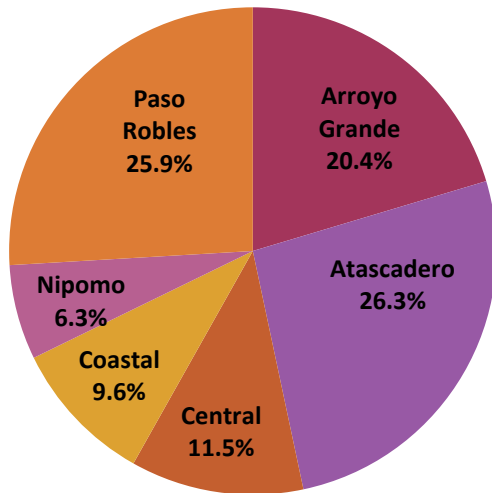
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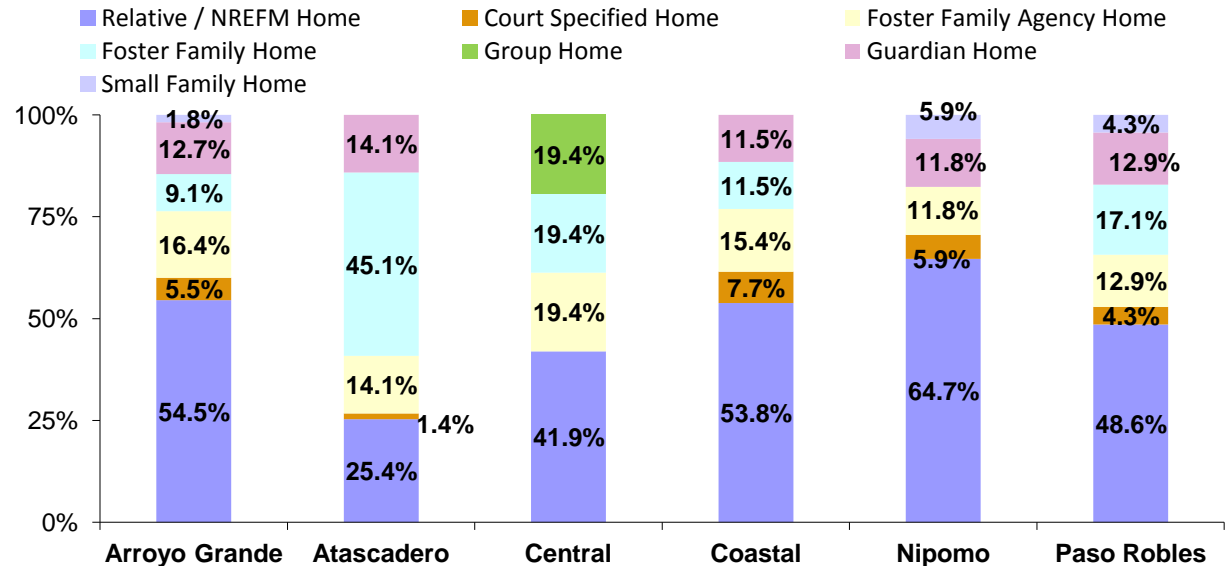
CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: Regional Office Overview of In-County Placements

In-County Foster Care Placements by Region



REGIONAL OFFICE	Relative / NREFM Home	Court Specified Home	Foster Family Agency Home	Foster Family Home	Group Home	SILP	Guardian Home	Small Family Home	Sum
Arroyo Grande	30	3	9	5	0		7	1	55
Atascadero	18	1	10	32	0		10	0	71
Central	13	0	6	6	6		0	0	31
Coastal	14	2	4	3	0		3	0	26
Nipomo	11	1	2	0	0		2	1	17
Paso Robles	34	3	9	12	0		9	3	70
In-County Total	120	10	40	58	6	0	31	5	270

Placement Types by Regional Office Effective 06/30/2013

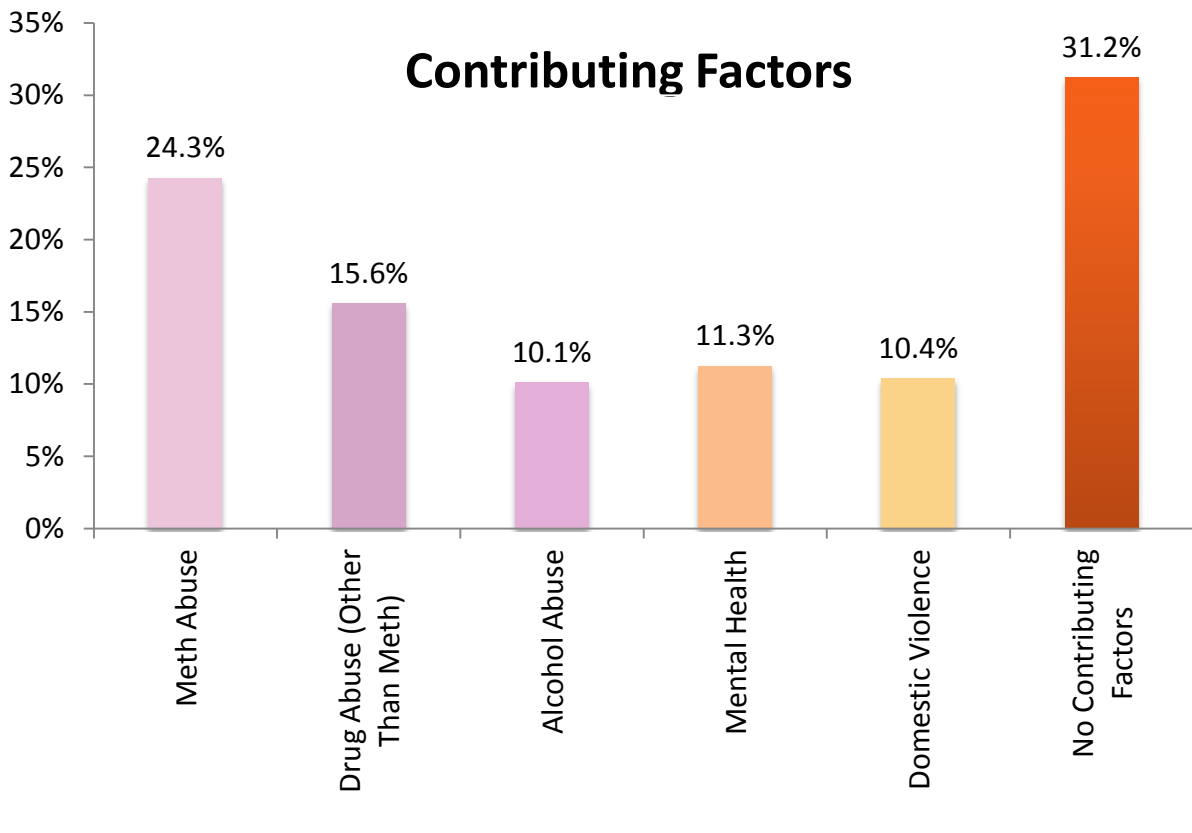


Note: Data on this page excludes children placed outside of San Luis Obispo County. There are currently 270 children placed in SLO County, 67 placed in other California counties and 9 placed out of state.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: Reasons for Foster Care Placement and Contributing Factors



REASON FOR INITIAL PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE AS OF 06/30/2013		
General Neglect	239	69.1%
Care Taker Absence/Incapacity	75	21.7%
Physical Abuse	13	3.8%
Sexual Abuse	2	0.6%
Emotional Abuse	4	1.2%
SILP - Voluntary Reentry	7	2.0%
Exploitation	2	0.6%
Relinquishment	1	0.3%
Safely Surrendered Baby	1	0.3%
Law Violation	1	0.3%
Severe Neglect	1	0.3%
Sum	346	

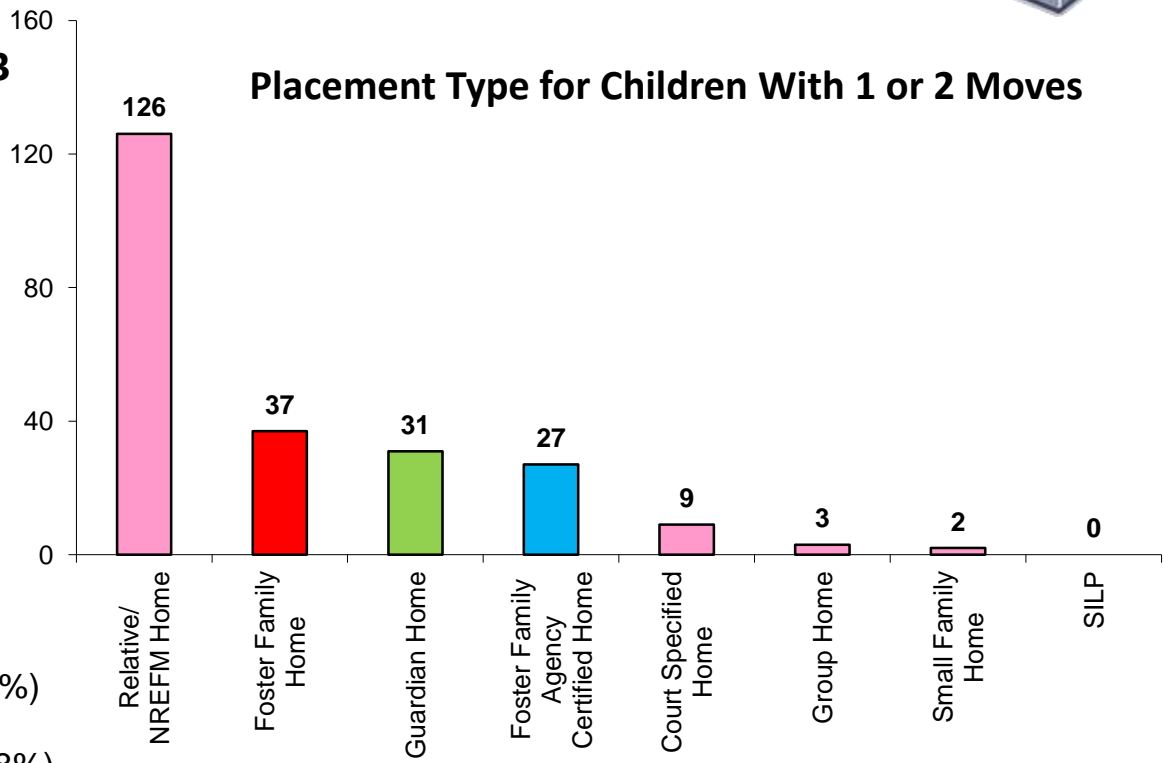
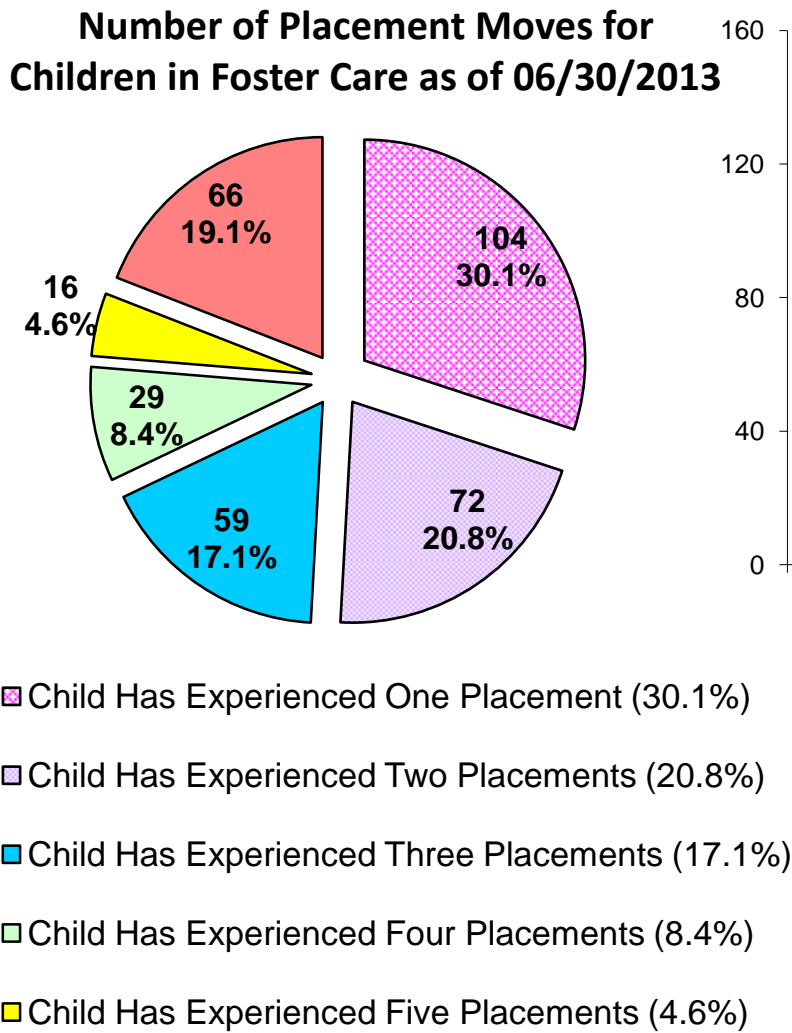
As of 06/30/2013, there were 346 SLO County children in foster care placements. For those 346 children, there were 356 Contributing Factors. Some children have a combination of factors including drug or alcohol abuse, mental health issues, and domestic violence.

Methamphetamine Abuse and Drug Abuse (other than Meth) are the most common factors, followed closely by Mental Health and Domestic Violence.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care



CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE – Number of Placement Moves
Family-to-Family Outcome: Fewer placement moves for children in foster care.



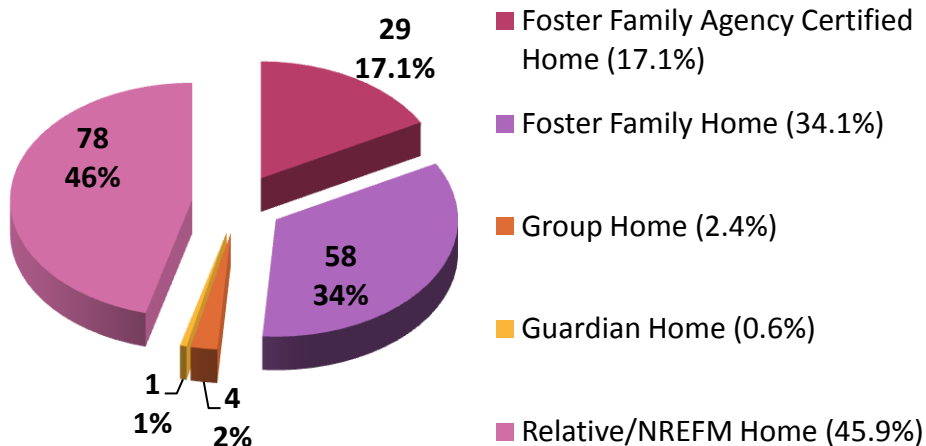
Of the 346 children in foster care as of 06/30/2013, 30.1% remain in their initial placement and 19.1% have experienced 6 or more different placements. Of the 176 children who have experienced only one or two placement moves, 53.6% are in relative placement homes.

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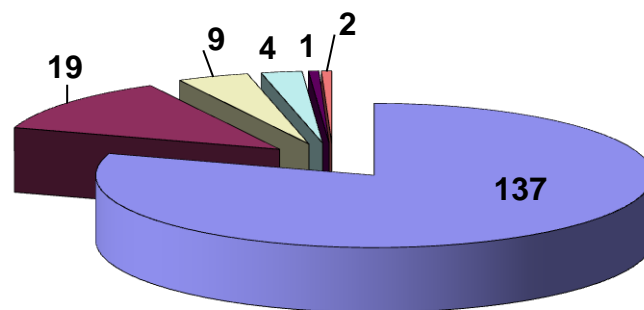
Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE – Initial (New) Placements

Placement Type	Total	%
Relative/NREFM Home (45.9%)	78	45.9%
Foster Family Home (34.1%)	58	34.1%
Foster Family Agency Certified Home (17.1%)	29	17.1%
Group Home (2.4%)	4	2.4%
Guardian Home	1	0.6%
	170	



Reasons for Removal – New Placements



- General Neglect (79.9%)
- Caretaker Absence/Incapacity (12.4%)
- Physical Abuse (4.1%)
- Law Violation (2.4%)
- Safely Surrendered Baby (0.6%)
- Exploitation (0.6%)

Note: This chart refers to the 169 children placed into care from 7/1/2012- 06/30/2013. The chart on p. 5 refers to all 346 children currently in care, regardless of placement date.

Between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013 a total of 170 children were separated from their parents and placed into foster care. The majority of the children were removed due to general neglect. In addition, the most common placement type was with relatives or non-related extended family members, such as family friends.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

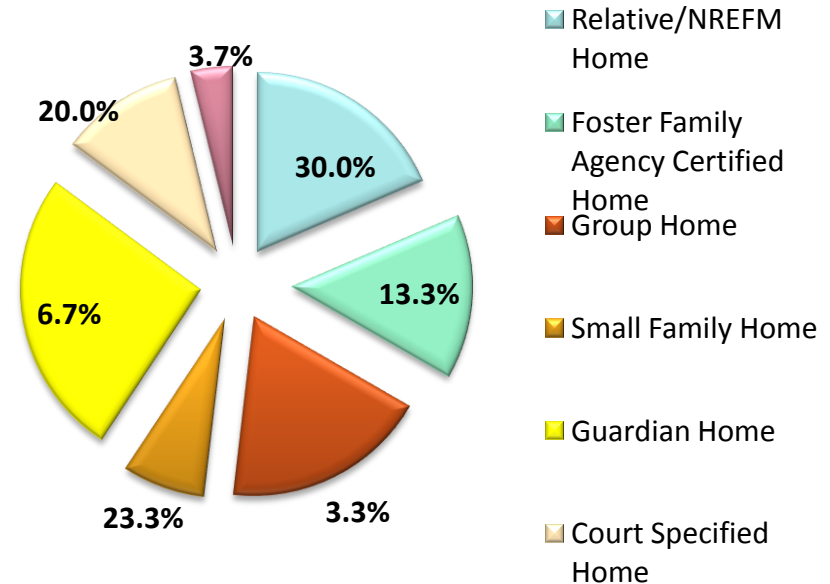


LENGTH OF TIME IN FOSTER CARE

Family-to-Family Outcome: Shorter length of stay in foster care.

Years in Foster Care	# of Children	Percentage
0 to 1 Year	217	62.7%
1 to 2 Years	51	14.7%
2 to 3 years	33	9.5%
3 to 4 Years	12	3.5%
4 to 5 Years	6	1.7%
5 Years or Longer	27	7.8%

Placement Types for Children in Foster Care Five Years or Longer



In Foster Care Five Years or Longer

Place Home Facility Type	GIRLS	BOYS	Total
Relative/NREFM Home	2	3	5
Foster Family Agency Certified Home	3	1	4
Foster Family Home	0	0	0
Group Home	2	3	5
Small Family Home	1	1	2
Guardian Home	6	1	7
Court Specified Home	2	1	3
SILP	1	0	1
Sum	17	10	27

The goal of San Luis Obispo County Child Welfare Services is to transition children out of foster care to safe and stable families in the shortest possible time. As of 06/30/2013, 77% (268 of 346 children) have been in foster care for less than two years, and 23% for more than two years.

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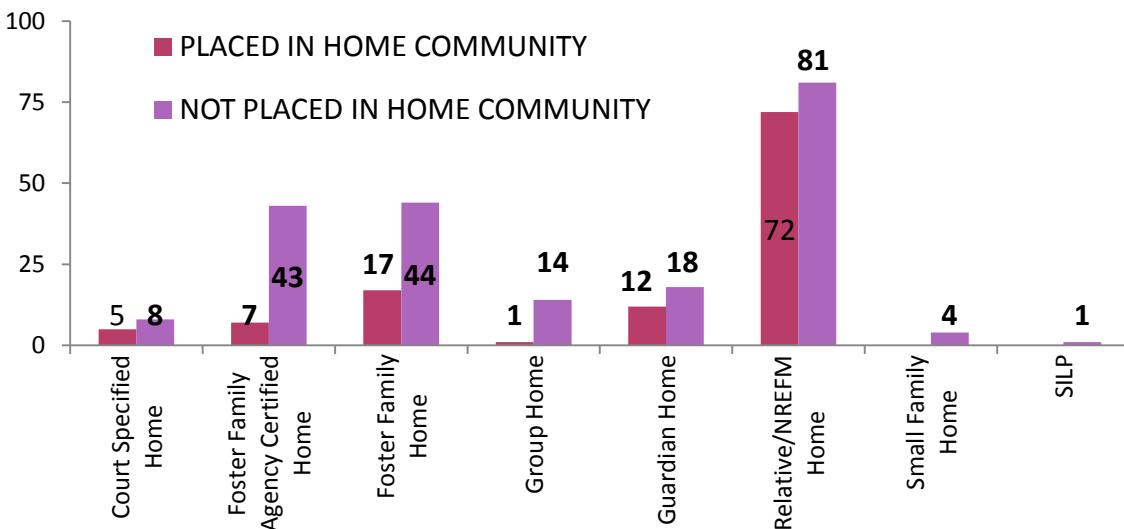
Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN WITHIN THEIR HOME COMMUNITY



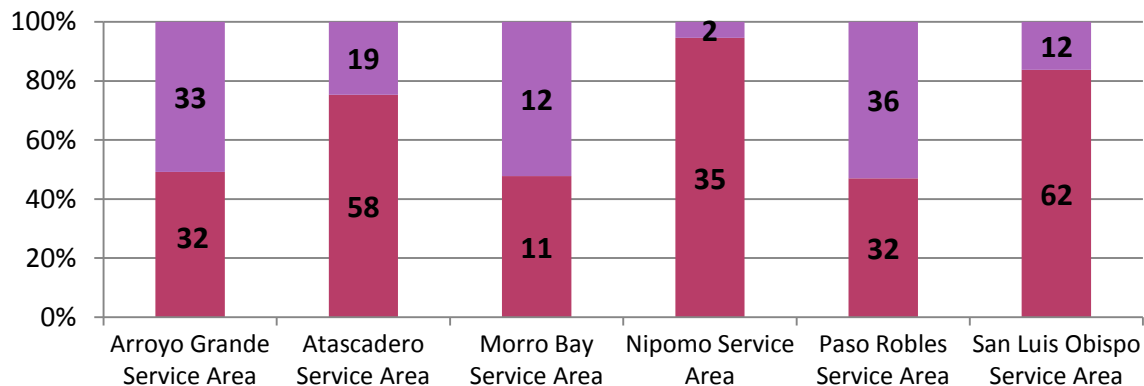
For children who must be in Foster Care, placement with a relative or extended family member within the child's home community is the best possible option.

Ideal Service Area codes are not assigned in all cases, so the data in the chart to the left represents only 327 of the 346 children in foster care as of 06/30/2013. On average, 33% of foster children are currently placed in their home community and 67% are not.



■ NOT PLACED IN HOME COMMUNITY
■ PLACED IN HOME COMMUNITY

All cities in the county are included in one of the six service areas shown on the chart to the right. For example, the Arroyo Grande service area includes Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Shell Beach, and Oceano.



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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN WITH THEIR SIBLINGS

Family-to-Family Outcome: More siblings placed together.

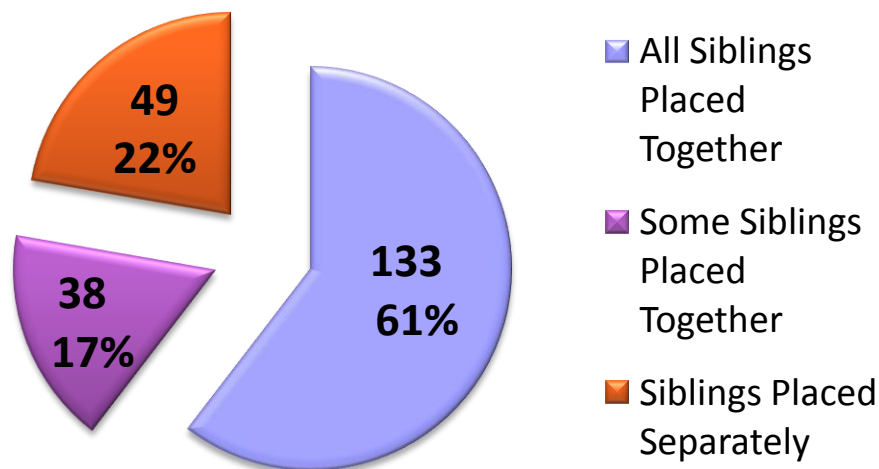


As Of April 1, 2013

All Children in Foster Care Who Have Siblings	220
All Siblings Placed Together	133
Some Siblings Placed Together	38
Siblings Placed Separately	49

The most current statistics available for sibling placements are dated April 1, 2013, at which time there were 220 children in placement who have one or more siblings. Of those, 171 (83%) were placed with all or some of their siblings.

Studies show that maintaining sibling relationships is of vital importance to the wellbeing of children. Often, children who are abused or neglected by their caregivers form especially strong ties to one another. The emotional support of the sibling bond may nurture a sense of stability and continuity and help to provide a sense of safety for children in foster care placements.

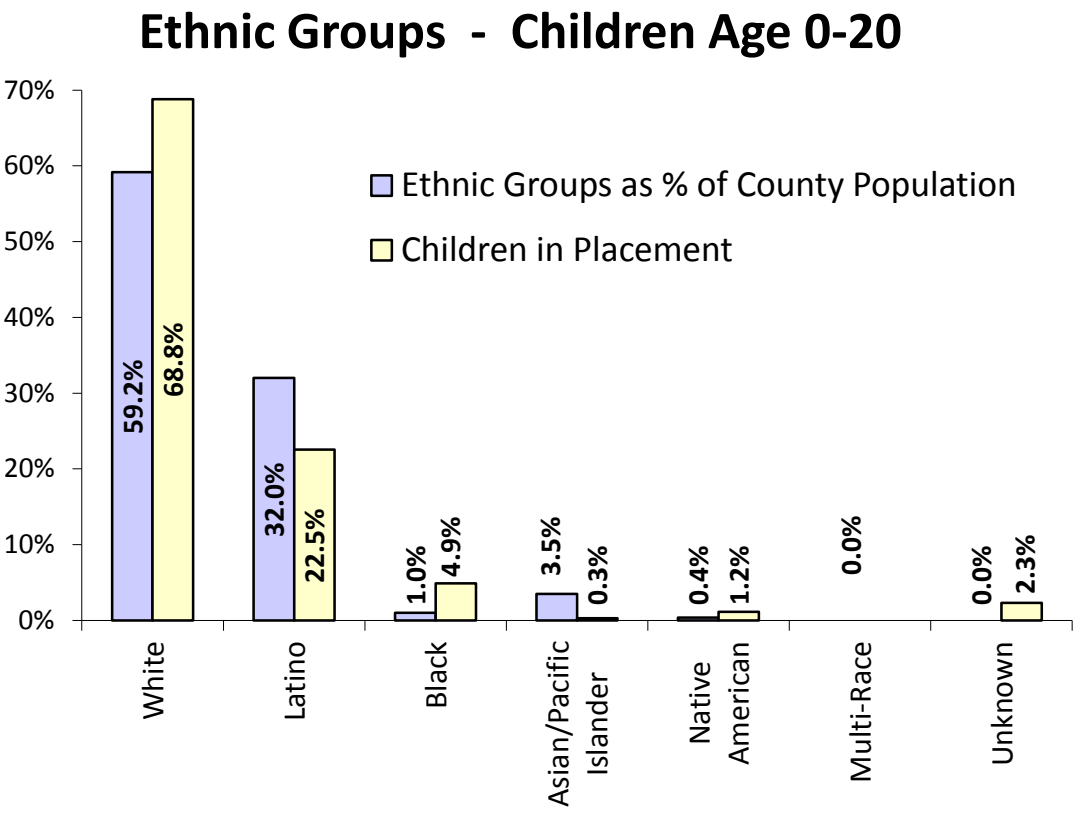




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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

ETHNIC GROUPS AGE 0-20
Family-to-Family Outcome: Reduce disparities associated with race/ethnicity.



Note: There are comparatively very few Black, Asian, and Native American children who are in Foster Care in SLO County. Therefore, the percentages fluctuate significantly with only minor changes in the numbers. The actual number of children in Foster Care compared to total population is shown in red on the chart below.

	# of Children in Placement	Age 0-20 Population
White	238	41242
Latino	78	22330
Black	17	720
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	2448
Native American	4	273
Multi-Race	0	2699
Unknown to DSS	8	
Total	346	69712

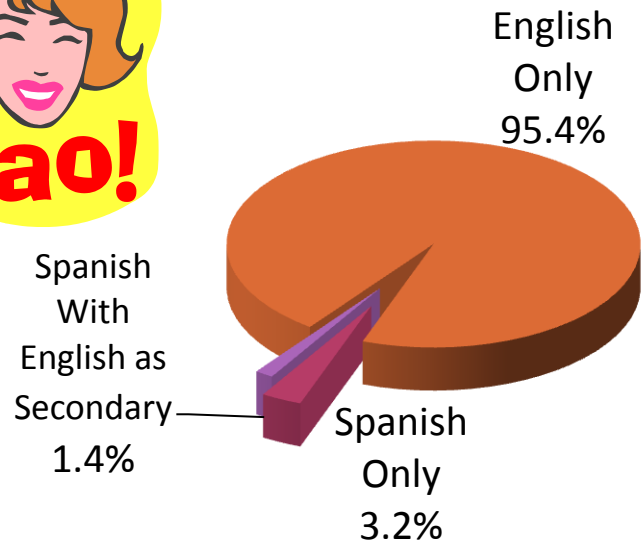
The Department consistently works to minimize potential disparity through the use of evidence-based practice and the provision of staff training.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care



LANGUAGE



There are currently 16 children in Foster Care (4.6% of the total 346) who speak Spanish as their primary language. As of 6/30/2013, these children were placed as shown in the chart to the right. As with all placements, every effort is made to place monolingual children with relatives or extended family members in their home communities, and to ensure that they are placed with adults who are able to communicate with them.

Placement and Facility Type for Children Whose Primary Language is Spanish

	Relative/ NREFM Home	Guardian Home	Group Home	Foster Family Agency Home	Foster Family Home	Court Specified Home	Sum
Atascadero		2		1			3
Paso Robles	1	1			1	1	4
Templeton					3		3
San Luis Obispo	1						1
Arroyo Grande		1					1
Out of County	1		1	2			4
	3	4	1	3	4	1	16

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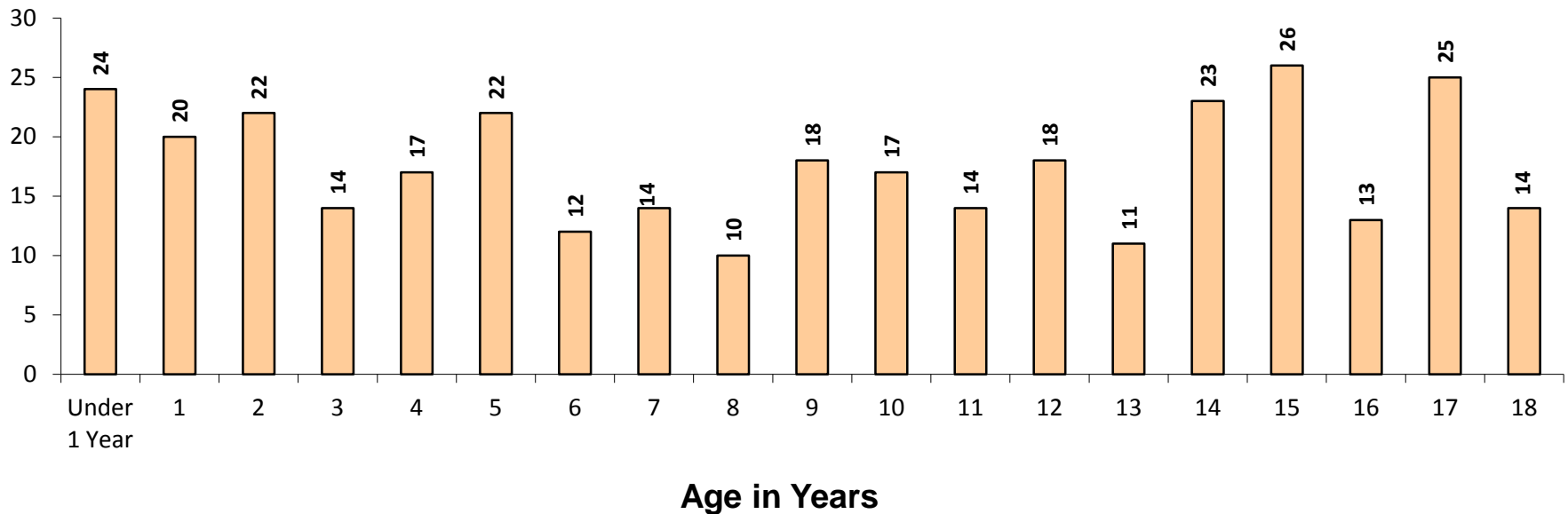
Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

AGE DISPARITIES

Family-to-Family Outcome: Reduce disparities associated with age.



Number of Children in Foster Care by Age



The above chart does not include 12 children in foster care who are over 18.

There are currently 346 children in foster care. 119 are between the ages of 0-5, 103 are between the ages of 6-12, 112 are between the ages of 13-18, and 12 are over 18.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

TEENS Family-to-Family Outcome: Reduce disparities associated with age.

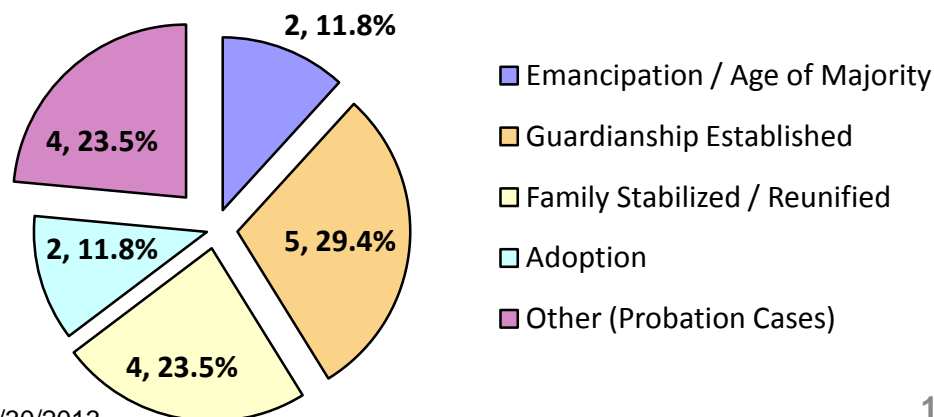
124 San Luis Obispo County Teens were in Foster Care as of 6/30/2013



Region	Placement Facility Type as of 6/30/2013								Total
	Relative/ NREFM Home	Court Specified Home	Foster Family Agency Certified Home	Foster Family Home	Group Home	Guardian Home	Small Family Home	SILP	
Central/Coastal	6	2	9	0	6	1	0	0	24
North	14	4	9	4	0	11	2	0	44
South	14	4	6	0	0	5	1	0	30
Other than SLO County	9	3	3	0	10	0	0	1	26
Sum:	43	13	27	4	16	17	3	1	124

Of the 346 children in foster care as of 6/30/2013, 124 (35.8%) are age 13 or older. The number of teens in placement is almost the same as the 12/31/2012 data, when 122 of 348 (35.1%) children in foster care were teens. A total of 17 teen foster care cases were closed between 7/1/2012 and 6/30/2013. Of the 17 cases closed, 2 (11.8%) were closed due to the teen emancipating or reaching the age of majority (see chart on right).

**Reasons for Closing Teen Foster Care Cases
Between 7/1/2012 and 6/30/2013**



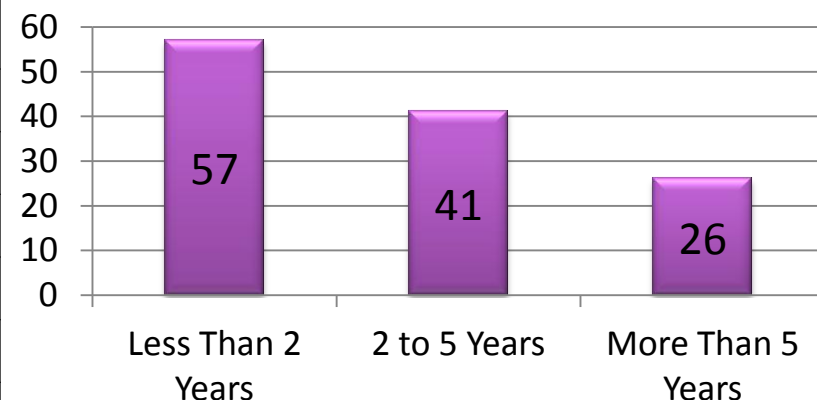
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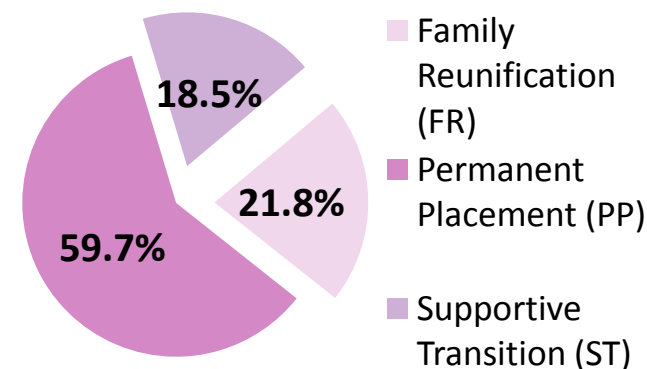
TEENS Family-to-Family Outcome: Reduce disparities associated with age.

Placement Types for Teens in Foster Care	Family Reunification	Permanent Placement	Supportive Transition	Sum
Relative/NREFM Home	17	23	3	43
Foster Family Agency Certified Home	6	15	6	27
Foster Family Home	2	2		4
Group Home	1	15		16
Guardian Home		16	1	17
Small Family Home	1	1	1	3
Court Specified Home		2	11	13
Supervised Independent Living Placement			1	1
Sum	27	74	23	124

Length of Stay for 124 Teens in Foster Care



Current Case Service Components for Teens in Foster Care



The After 18 program provides foster youth with the option to remain in foster care and receive services and supports until age 21. After 18 began in January 2012 and the full program will be phased in over the next 3 years.

Youth who choose to participate in the program are counted in the Supportive Transition Service Component in the above chart. As of 6/30/2013, there were 23 youth in placement participating in the After 18 program.

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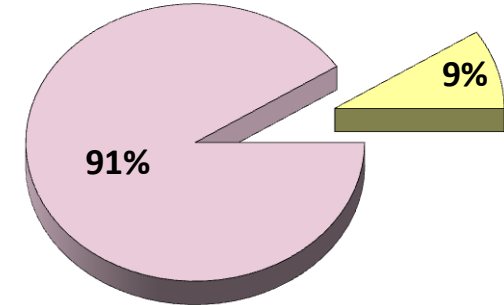
Snapshot Children in Foster Care

MEDICAL CONDITIONS



Medical Conditions of Children in Foster Care	% of Children Affected	Total # Children Affected
Upper Respiratory Infection / Bronchitis	43.6%	151
Mental / Emotional / Behavioral	36.8%	128
Vision / Hearing / Speech Impairment	21.6%	75
Cavities / Dental Caries / Malocclusion	34.8%	121
Dermatitis / Other Skin Conditions	15.8%	55
Ear Infection	17.0%	59
Prenatal Drug / Alcohol Exposure	12.1%	42
Other Physical Health Issues	67.8%	236

# of Children in Placement	346
Children with Medical Condition Noted	314
Children With No Medical Condition Noted	32



- Children with Medical Condition Noted
- Children With No Medical Condition Noted

91% of children currently in Foster Care have one or more physical or mental health conditions requiring treatment. The chart shows some of the more common conditions. Some children have multiple conditions (so the percentages do not add up to 100%). The Other Physical Health Issues category includes children in care who have diabetes, cerebral palsy, seizures, congenital heart disease, scoliosis, and a wide range of other conditions. This data is based upon CWS/CMS case records of the 346 children in foster care as of 6/30/2013.